

JAN 20 2006

This facsimile message and its contents are legally privileged and confidential information intended solely for the use of the addressee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or other use of this message and its contents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this telecopy in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original message to us at the address shown below via the Postal Service. Thank You.

ALSTON & BIRD LLP

101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
 704-444-1000
 Fax 704-444-1111

TELECOPY PLEASE DELIVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Date:

January 20, 2006

Recipient:

Examiner F. Saether

Company:

U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

Fax Number:

(571) 273-8300

Voice Number:

Sender:

Nicholas F. Gallo

Message:

-- OFFICIAL --

Amendment After Final
 Appln. No. 10/796,364
 Filed: 03/09/2004
 Group Art No: 3677
 Final Office Action Dated: 11/23/2005

Number of Pages: (including cover page) 18

IF NOT RECEIVED PROPERLY, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY AT 704-444-1000.

USER CODE:	GALLN	REQUESTED BY:	Grace Rippy
CLIENT/MATTER:	038190/273111	OPERATOR:	

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 20 2006

PATENT
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 3677

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/796,364 Confirmation No.: 2239
Applicant(s): Keener
Filed: 03/09/2004
Art Unit: 3677
Examiner: F. Saether
Title: HYBRID FASTENER APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR FASTENING

Docket No.: 038190/273111

Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 23, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.